(d) and (e) (i) The insurance cover has already been increased from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh payable to the nominee in the event of death or permanent disability of any Indian Emigrant who goes for employment purpose after obtaining emigration clearance.

(ii) Besides, an additional cover of minimum of Rs, 25,000/-is provided as legal expenses incurred by the emigrant in any litigation relating to his employment.

(iii) The family of emigrant worker in India shall be entitled to hospitalization cover in event of death or permanent disability of the insured person for a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- per annum from the earlier Rs. 10,000/-per annum.

(iv) The insured person is to be reimbursed actual one way economy class airfare if he falls sick or is declared medically unfit to commence or continue working and the service contract is terminated by the Foreign Employer within 12 month instead of 6 months of taking the insurance as provided in 2003 scheme.

Besides the above policy under the PBBY, an additional insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs at a nominal premium of Rs. 100/-to the workers going to Afghanistan for employment has been approved by the Ministry.

All these enhanced coverage are effective from February, 2006. At present there is no further proposal for any new product with add on features.

Establishment of Overseas Recruitment Agency

173. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Goa have approached the Union Government in the matter of establishing an Overseas Recruitment Agency in the State;

(b) the nature of the proposal made;

(c) whether Government propose to give financial, technical or other type of assistance to the State Government in this regard;

(d) whether such proposal have come from any other State;

(e) whether Government propose to draw any scheme to facilitate establishment of such agencies in other States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) No Proposal has been received from the State Government of Goa for setting up an Overseas Recruitment Agency under the Emigration Act, 1983.

(d) to (f) Nine Registration Certificates under the Emigration Act, 1983 have been issued to Societies/Agencies owned by State Governments. For establishment of such agencies only an application under Section 11 of Emigration Act, 1983 is required.

Voting rights to Overseas Indians

†174. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are determined to provide; right to vote to non-resident Indians;

(b) if so, by when the law would be drafted in this matters; and

(c)the reasons for delay in giving right to vote to non-resident Indians?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) With a view to enabling citizens of India who are absenting from their place of ordinary residence owing to their employment, education or otherwise outside India to get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls and cast their votes when they are in their constituency at the time of polls, the Govemment introduced the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 in Rajya Sabha on 27-02-2006. The said Bill was referred to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee oh Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination. The Committee presented its Report to Rajya Sabha/laid in Lok Sabha on the 4th August, 2006. The Report is being examined in the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.